



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the existing claims with the following amended version in which claims 1-16, 23-24, 28-32 and 34-35 have been cancelled without prejudice.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) A modular electrical connector assembly, comprising:

a front face with a plurality of openings for receiving mating terminals of a complementary mating connector, a plurality of connector modules each having a dielectric module housing and a plurality of terminals for establishing electrical connections to the mating terminals,

wherein the module housings each having a front face, and the front faces of the module housings together forming the front face of the connector assembly, and a dielectric main housing to which the connector modules are attached.

18. (Original) The connector assembly as claimed in Claim 17, further comprising:

a first guide means for mating interaction with a complementary mating guide means on the complementary mating connector, wherein the guide means are arranged on an upper face of the connector assembly.

19. (Original) The connector assembly as claimed in Claim 18, wherein the first guide means is attached to the main housing.

20. (Original) The connector assembly as claimed in Claim 17, further comprising:
a second guide means for mating interaction with a complementary mating guide means of the mating connector, wherein the second guide means is arranged on a lower face of the connector assembly, opposite the upper face.

21. (Original) The connector assembly as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the module housings each have a receptacle for detachable attachment of the second guide means, and wherein the second guide means are attachable to the connector assembly at various positions.

22. (Original) The connector assembly as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the second guide means comprises two or more separate guide elements.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Original) The connector assembly as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the first and second guide means form a polarity-reversal protection or coding.

26. (Original) The connector assembly as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the connector modules form a stack, and wherein the main housing is essentially L-shaped, and covers an upper face and a rear face of the stack.

27. (Original) The connector assembly as claimed in claim 17, wherein the module housings each have at least a peg, and the main housing has a plurality of corresponding openings, with the pegs and the openings forming press fits.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)